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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Roger A. de la Torre et al.      Art Unit : 3761  
Serial No. : 10/004,468      Examiner : Glenn K. Dawson  
Filed : October 23, 2001  
Title : LAPAROSCOPIC ACCESS PORT FOR SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS OR THE HAND

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

In response to the action dated May 28, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Please add the following paragraph beginning at page 1, after the title:

-This application claims priority from continuation application U.S.S.N 09/451,570, which was filed on November 30, 1999 and issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,319,246 on November 20, 2000, which is a continuation application U.S.S.N. 08/902,144, which was filed on July 29, 1997 and issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,024,736 on February 15, 2000, which is a continuation application of U.S.S.N. 08/319,986, which was filed on October 7, 1994 and issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,653,705 on August 5, 1997-

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-19.  
Please add claims 34-53 as follows:

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

October 22, 2002  
Date of Deposit  
Signature Laura Murphy  
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